



Ministry of Defence Police

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Our Ref: eCase: FOI 2016/00509 RFI: 16/16

Date: 28 January 2016

By email - [REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED],

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000: MINISTRY OF DEFENCE POLICE: POLICE TRAVEL AND HOLIDAY

We acknowledge receipt of your email dated 11 January 2016, which was a refined version of your email of 2 December 2015.

We are treating your email as a request for information in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA 2000).

We have reviewed the earlier correspondence and discovered that the numbering of the request became disjointed. We believe this was because of electronic formatting in the Microsoft Word application. We have now reformatted and renumbered the request in the manner in which we believe you intended to submit to us. However, because of the formatting error we indicated to you that we would be able to respond to questions 1,2,3,4,7,8 and 9. With the new formatted questions (as below) we will now be able to answer questions 1,2,3,4 and 8. Responding to questions 5,6,7 would exceed the cost limits referred to in our original letter of 5 January 2016.

In your email of 11 January you requested the following information:

- “1. How many days holiday did the chief constable take in 2012/13, 2013/14 and 2014/15?**
- 2. During these years, was it the chief constable him/herself who decided how much holiday he/she could take? If not, who decided?**
- 3. How many days did the chief constable work in the financial years of 2012/13, 2013/14 and 2014/15?**
- 4. How much money did the force's sport and recreation association contribute to Police Sport UK in 2012/13, 2013/14, 2014/15?**

5. How much did the force spend on international flights for staff in 2012/13, 2013/14 and 2014/15?

Please provide the following detail:

- a) Specify which officer (rank and name) took the flight**
- b) Where the flight was to (city and country)**
- c) Reason for flight (name of conference/ meeting/ job)**
- d) The cost of each flight**
- e) For each of the above foreign trips, please tell me how much was spent by each officer on accommodation and subsistence.**

6. Were any of these trips for Police Sport events? If so, please specify which ones and how much was spent on accommodation and subsistence for each (if this isn't already included in the above response).

7. Please tell me how much was spent on travel and accommodation to Police Sport events in the UK (this includes training/ tournaments/ conferences) in 2012/13, 2013/14 and 2014/15?

Please provide the following detail:

- a) Specify which officer (rank and name) attended**
- b) What each event was**
- c) Where each event was**
- d) The cost of attending each event per officer**

8. For all police sports teams or recreational groups (eg. the force's football, golfing and netball teams), please specify how much time each week participants can take out from their work schedule. (I.e. members of the golfing team can leave work at 1pm every Wednesday between the months of April and September and one full day during this period for a tournament)."

A search for information has now been completed and I can confirm that some information in scope of your request is held.

1. How many days holiday did the chief constable take in 2012/13, 2013/14 and 2014/15?

Chief Constable (CC) Hitchcock was appointed in June 2013. Annual Leave taken in 2013/2014 (from June 2013) was 30 days. Annual Leave taken in 2014/15 was 29 days. No information held on the previous CC Steve Love.

2. During these years, was it the chief constable him/herself who decided how much holiday he/she could take? If not, who decided?

The Chief Constables annual leave entitlement is set out in his employment contract and is recorded as 32 days, unlike Home Department Chief Constables who are generally allocated not less than 48 days annual leave per annum.

3. How many days did the chief constable work in the financial years of 2012/13, 2013/14 and 2014/15?

The Chief Constable is on duty at all times other than rest days, public holidays and periods of annual leave. There have been occasions during which he will have been on duty to cover events that have taken place over weekends. The Chief Constable is issued with a mobile telephone which he carries at all times, including annual leave, he can therefore be contacted whenever necessary.

4. How much money did the force's sport and recreation association contribute to Police Sport UK in 2012/13, 2013/14, 2014/15?

No information held. No public funding was contributed to Police Sport by the Ministry of Defence Police (MDP).

5. How much did the force spend on international flights for staff in 2012/13, 2013/14 and 2014/15?

Please provide the following detail:

- a) Specify which officer (rank and name) took the flight
 - b) Where the flight was to (city and country)
 - c) Reason for flight (name of conference/ meeting/ job)
 - d) The cost of each flight
 - e) For each of the above foreign trips, please tell me how much was spent by each officer on accommodation and subsistence.
6. Were any of these trips for Police Sport events? If so, please specify which ones and how much was spent on accommodation and subsistence for each (if this isn't already included in the above response).

7. Please tell me how much was spent on travel and accommodation to Police Sport events in the UK (this includes training/ tournaments/ conferences) in 2012/13, 2013/14 and 2014/15?

Please provide the following detail:

- a) Specify which officer (rank and name) attended
- b) What each event was
- c) Where each event was
- d) The cost of attending each event per officer

The information relating to questions 5,6 and 7 could not be collected and collated without exceeding cost limits.

Section 12 of the Act makes provision for public authorities to refuse requests for information where the cost of dealing with them would exceed the appropriate limit, which for central government is set at £600. This represents the estimated cost of one person spending 3.5 working days in determining whether the department holds the information, and locating, retrieving and extracting it.

8. For all police sports teams or recreational groups (eg. the force's football, golfing and netball teams), please specify how much time each week participants can take out from their work schedule. (I.e. members of the golfing team can leave work at 1pm every Wednesday between the months of April and September and one full day during this period for a tournament)."

No information held. No time has been taken out of work schedules for sporting events.

We apologise for any inconvenience the electronic formatting errors may have caused.

If you are not satisfied with this response or wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of your request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Information Rights Compliance team, 1st Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, London SW1A 2HB (email CIO-FOI-IR@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

If you remain dissatisfied following an internal review, you may take your complaint to the Information Commissioner under the provisions of Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not investigate the case until the MOD internal review process has been completed. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website (<http://www.ico.org.uk>).

Yours sincerely

MDP Sec Data Protection and Freedom of Information Office